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Summary record of the first part* of the 27th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 28 March 2013, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Berger ..... (Germany)
Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Ruiz Massieu

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* The summary record of the second part of the meeting, held on Monday, 6 May 2013, appears as document A/C.5/67/SR.27/Add.1.

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The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

Statement by the Chef de Cabinet

1. **Ms. Malcorra** (Chef de Cabinet, Executive Office of the Secretary-General) said that the draft resolutions under consideration by the Committee, particularly the one on the accountability framework, were of significant value to the Organization. She welcomed the draft resolution that addressed the revised estimates of the cost of repairing the damage caused by storm Sandy, which would enable the Organization to protect its buildings against future disasters, as well as the Secretary-General's proposals for the management of official travel and the long-term accommodation needs at Headquarters.

2. With regard to the draft resolution on human resources management, the Secretary-General was committed to the proposed mobility policy and appreciated Member States' support, which would enable him to move forward with the proposals and implement some of the most critical reforms. She noted that the Committee would also take a decision on the pilot project for publishing audit reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services. Lastly, she expressed the hope that the Committee would reach agreement on the deferred issues concerning operational matters as soon as possible.

Agenda item 130: Programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (*continued*)

Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/C.5/67/L.23)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.23: Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013

3. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.23 was adopted.*

Agenda item 135: Human resources management (*continued*) (A/C.5/67/L.29)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.29: Human resources management

4. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.29 was adopted.*

5. **Mr. Bayat Mokhtari** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation had joined the consensus because it was important not to block an important area of United Nations reform; however, paragraph 71 of the draft resolution was not consistent with the spirit of international labour laws and standards and the Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2011/6 on the Staff-Management Committee should be updated accordingly. It was regrettable that the largest international organization continued to shy away from labour standards, to set a poor example and to leave itself open to legal challenges.

6. **Mr. Chumakov** (Russian Federation) said that, in order to avoid any misinterpretation, he wished to underline a number of fundamental aspects of the draft resolution, primarily with respect to mobility. Most importantly, under the terms of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to further refine the proposed mobility framework while taking into account key principles of United Nations human resources policy, particularly the principle of the equality of internal and external candidates at every stage of the selection and recruitment process. In practice, that meant that all vacancies in the Secretariat other than temporary ones must be open to external candidates.

7. In addition, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to present an alternative proposal with revised incentives to promote mobility, which could also affect the scope of the framework. A high-quality report of the Secretary-General that included an alternative proposal with a voluntary approach to mobility, as called for by General Assembly resolution 63/250, would enable the Assembly to determine, at its sixty-eighth session, the optimal parameters of the mobility framework. He took it that proposals on changes to the staff selection and recruitment system which took into account the alternative mobility proposals would also be submitted at that session.

8. While the Assembly had not yet reached agreement on the issue of civilian capacity, paragraph 65 of the draft resolution was in line with his delegation's priorities in the matter, as it would ensure greater transparency in the use of Government-provided personnel in United Nations missions in the event that it was difficult to deploy United Nations staff.

9. At its sixty-eighth session, the Assembly should engage in a serious discussion of what the Secretariat should be in the twenty-first century and how it should be staffed and managed, with the aim of establishing a framework that would make for a flexible, nimble and transparent Secretariat open to outside expertise.

Agenda item 136: Joint Inspection Unit (*continued*) (A/C.5/67/L.24)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.24: Joint Inspection Unit

10. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.24 was adopted.*

Agenda item 137: United Nations common system (*continued*) (A/C.5/67/L.28)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.28: United Nations common system

11. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.28 was adopted.*

Agenda item 139: Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (*continued*) (A/C.5/67/L.27)

Draft decision A/C.5/67/L.27: Budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system

12. *Draft decision A/C.5/67/L.27 was adopted.*

Agenda item 140: Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (*continued*) (A/C.5/67/L.25)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.25: Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

13. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.25 was adopted.*

Agenda item 144: Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (*continued*) (A/C.5/67/L.26)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.26: International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

14. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.26 was adopted.*

Agenda item 129: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*)

Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat (A/C.5/67/L.22)

Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.22: Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat

15. *Draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.22 was adopted.*

The meeting was suspended at 3.50 p.m. and resumed at 6.05 p.m.

Questions deferred for future consideration (A/C.5/67/L.30)

Draft decision A/C.5/67/L.30: Questions deferred for future consideration

16. **Mr. Thomson** (Fiji), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, supported by **Mr. Ye** Xuenong (China), **Mr. Briens** (France), **Mr. Puri** (India), **Mr. Yamazaki** (Japan), **Mr. Al-Hussein** (Jordan), **Mr.** Ahmed **Khan** (Pakistan), **Mr. Williams** (United Kingdom) and **Mr. Lieberman** (United States of America), objected to the deferral of the Committee's consideration of the report of the Senior Advisory Group established pursuant to resolution 65/289 and requested that the Chair should suspend the meeting to allow informal negotiations to continue, as consensus on the issue of rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries was within reach.

17. **Mr. Chumakov** (Russian Federation) said that, for the sake of consistency, his delegation could not agree to continued discussion of the issue of reimbursement rates unless the deliberations on the question of civilian capacity — another of the matters deferred by the draft decision — were also extended.

18. **The Chair** said that, should the resumed session be extended without a decision on the deferral of agenda items, all the issues referred to in the draft decision would be open to further negotiation. If the Committee members wished to suspend the meeting to allow informal negotiations to continue, he would be guided accordingly. However, he suggested that the current meeting should be adjourned and that the Committee should reconvene the following week, so that delegations would have sufficient time to examine any draft resolution that might be produced and consult with their capitals, in accordance with the Committee's principles of transparency and consensus-based decision-making.

19. **Mr. Puri** (India), supported by **Mr. dos Santos** (Brazil) and **Mr. Al-Hussein** (Jordan), said that, while the Chair's pragmatic solution was welcome, it was important that a decision should be taken by 31 March 2013, when the supplemental payment to troop-contributing countries approved by the Assembly in its resolution 66/264 would expire. For that reason, he asked that informal negotiations should be allowed to continue with a view to resuming the meeting promptly when a consensus had been reached.

The meeting was suspended at 6.30 p.m.